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News Release

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St. Anthony man indicted for bank robbery

A 23-year-old St. Anthony man was indicted yesterday in federal court in connection with the July 1 heist at the TCF Bank in St. Anthony.

Yonatan Demsas Abraham was charged with one count of bank robbery July 22 in Minneapolis. His indictment alleges that on July 1 Abraham did, by force, violence and intimidation, take approximately \$1,314 from the bank, located in a Cub Foods store.

According to a Federal Bureau of Investigation affidavit, at approximately 4:45 p.m. the robber entered the bank, located at 3934 Silver Lake Road, and handed a note to a teller which stated "I have a gun. Don't look up. Put \$2,500 in an envelope."

The teller complied, filled an envelope with cash and handed it to the robber, who walked out of the bank. A witness saw the man run out of the grocery store and drive away in a vehicle. The witness wrote down the vehicle's license plate number.

Police discovered the vehicle's owner, and went to his St. Anthony address. There officers found an individual whose description matched that of the suspect, and arrested him.

If convicted, Abraham faces a potential maximum penalty of 20 years in prison. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge. This case is the result of an investigation by the FBI and the St. Anthony Police Department, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney William J. Otteson.

An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by the defendant. The defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.